

10/565349

IAP15 Rec'd PCT/PTO 20 JAN 2006

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Serial No. :

Filed :

PCT NO. : PCT/CA2003/001213

IFD : August 8, 2003

TC/A.U. :

Confirmation No:

Examiner :

Docket No. : 06-117

Customer No. : 34704

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

In the above-identified application for United States patent,  
please amend as follows.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims  
which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on Page 5 of this paper.